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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION'S GRANTS ENCOURAGE ELECTRONICS MATERIALS DIVERSION

DENVER, CO June 9, 2004 – The Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC) awarded eight grants, of \$1,000 to \$7,500 each, to communities, state and local governments, nonprofit and private industries to promote electronics recycling projects in the state. Grant recipients were selected for projects that focus on education, re-use, recycling or create permanent infrastructure. The goals of the grants are to educate consumers and businesses, leverage participation and donations from manufacturers, retailers or producers. OEMC's goal is to make the grant projects reproducible around the state, leading to a sustainable service for electronics recycling.

OEMC and its partners conducted twelve collection events in 2002, diverting more than 300,000 pounds of electronics materials from landfills. Many of the 2004 grant projects build upon the successes from the 2002 events. Pitkin County and San Juan Basin Recycling, who participated in the 2002 collections, will build infrastructure for year round collections, as will Garfield County. The other grant projects will also focus on collection to promote electronics reuse and recycling.

"Coloradans have a strong appetite for the newest technology and electronic goods. They are also looking for responsible ways to reuse or recycle their unwanted electronics. Building a sustainable infrastructure at the local level for electronics recycling and reuse will allow us to best utilize our resources," said Rick Grice, executive director of OEMC. "These grants will provide communities the tools they need that can help prevent illegal dumping, keep electronics out of landfills, and encourage sustainable and working reuse and recycling systems."

2003-2004 Electronics Recipients: Eco-Cycle, Garfield County, Gives, Inc., Mountain Electronics Recycling, Pitkin County Solid Waste Center, Providers Resource Clearinghouse, San Juan Basin Recycling Association et al, and Upper Arkansas Recycling.

For more Information on electronics recycling, collection events, and other recycling links, visit www.state.co.us/oemc.

About the Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (OEMC): The primary objective of Colorado's lead state agency on energy efficiency and conservation issues is to serve the people of Colorado through demonstration and education of viable, real-world solutions to the problem of reducing our reliance on foreign energy.